

ABSTRACT

A process for producing an aromatic carbonate, which comprises the steps of: (I) transesterifying a starting material selected from the group consisting of a dialkyl carbonate, an alkyl aryl carbonate and a mixture thereof with a reactant selected from the group consisting of an aromatic monohydroxy compound, an alkyl aryl carbonate and a mixture thereof, in the presence of a catalyst, to thereby obtain a high boiling point reaction mixture comprising an aromatic carbonate (a) and an aromatic carbonate ether (b), while withdrawing a low boiling point reaction mixture containing a low boiling point by-product; and (II) separating the aromatic carbonate ether (b) from the high boiling point reaction mixture to thereby obtain a high purity aromatic carbonate.